

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 100768
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE
APPROVED BY NEA:ADUBS
S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

-----040316Z 119576 /61

P 040220Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100768

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, IN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER DESAI

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER
TO PRIME MINISTER DESAI. SIGNED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW BY
POUCH.

2. BEGIN TEXT. QTE DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL LETTER OF APRIL 2
RESPONDING TO MY MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION.
SHORTLY AFTER ASSUMING OFFICE, I WROTE TO YOUR PREDECESSOR,
SUGGESTING THAT WE MIGHT OCCASIONALLY EXCHANGE VIEWS ON
MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES. NOW THAT YOU
HAVE HAD SOME TIME TO SETTLE IN ON YOUR NEW DUTIES, I WOULD
LIKE TO MAKE THE SAME PROPOSAL TO YOU.

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I READ WITH GREAT INTEREST YOUR ELOQUENT ADDRESS TO THE NON-
ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AND FOUND IN IT MANY
THEMES THAT ARE IDENTICAL TO MY OWN VIEWS. THE COMBINATION
OF SELF-RELIANCE AND HELPING OTHERS WHENEVER POSSIBLE IS
ALSO A BASIC AMERICAN BELIEF. WE SHARE, TOO, A COMMON
INTEREST IN NARROWING THE ECONOMIC GAP BETWEEN WEALTHIER
AND POORER NATIONS; THIS IS CERTAINLY A MAJOR COMMITMENT

OF MY ADMINISTRATION. THERE IS A LENGTHY AGENDA OF DEVELOPMENT ISSUES THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE ADDRESSING BILATERALLY AND IN MULTILATERAL MEETINGS. SINCE OUR GOALS ARE THE SAME, I AM SURE WE CAN FIND BROAD AGREEMENT ON THE BEST WAYS TO REACH THEM. WE TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING HELPED INDIA IN THE PAST, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO HELP AGAIN IN THE FUTURE.

OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE ALSO CONCERNED WITH QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SECURITY. HERE, TOO, OUR GOAL IS IDENTICAL-- A PEACEFUL, STABLE, AND JUST WORLD--AND I AM SURE WE CAN AGREE ON MANY OF THE STEPS TO TAKE.

YOU AND YOUR PREDECESSORS HAVE FREQUENTLY EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO REDUCE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. I SHARE YOUR CONCERN; AS I SAID IN MY INAUGURAL ADDRESS, OUR ULTIMATE GOAL SHOULD BE THE ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONRY. AS FIRST STEPS TOWARD THIS GOAL, WE HAVE MADE FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS TO THE SOVIET UNION. I HOPE THEY WILL GIVE US A POSITIVE RESPONSE. THIS IS A LONG AND DIFFICULT ROAD, HOWEVER, AND I HOPE THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT AND ADVICE AS WE TAKE EACH STEP AHEAD.

AS YOU KNOW, MY GOVERNMENT HAS STUDIED THE PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, AND WE HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN SOME STEPS, AT CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL COST TO OURSELVES, TO DEMONSTRATE OUR COMMITMENT. WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY RELATED TO LEGITIMATE ENERGY

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NEEDS, BUT WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THIS MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED IN WAYS THAT MINIMIZE THE DANGER OF MILITARY APPLICATIONS. NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE TECHNOLOGY IS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS; THAT IS WHY I PAID CLOSE ATTENTION TO YOUR COMMENTS ON INDIA'S PROGRAM. YOU WILL, OF COURSE, MAKE YOUR DECISIONS ON THE BASIS OF INDIAN INTERESTS; BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOUR DECISIONS WILL ALSO REFLECT THE LONG-TERM NEEDS OF ALL MANKIND.

IN THE AREAS OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT NEAR INDIA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA, THERE IS NO BASIC DIFFERENCE IN INDIAN AND AMERICAN VIEWS. WE INTEND TO PURSUE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS A MATTER OF HIGHEST PRIORITY. ALTHOUGH MANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS REMAIN UNRESOLVED, MY TALKS WITH ISRAELI AND ARAB LEADERS INDICATE A BASIC WILLINGNESS ON BOTH SIDES TO MOVE TOWARD PEACE AND A HIGH REALIZATION THAT THE PRICE OF FAILURE WOULD BE TERRIBLY HIGH.

IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, ALSO, THE TIME HAS COME FOR ACTION.

CLEARLY THE ONLY VIABLE AND JUST SOLUTION TO THE ZIMBABWE
AND NAMIBIA PROBLEMS IS ONE THAT ASSURES RULE BY THE

MAJORITY. WE WILL WORK ACTIVELY TOWARD THAT END. I AM
ALSO ACUTELY AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS POSED BY THE APARTHEID
SYSTEM IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE THAT MAHATMA
GANDHI CHAMPIONED THERE MUST BECOME A REALITY.

AS WE APPROACH DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION CONCERNING
DEMILITARIZATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN, I WOULD WELCOME ANY
SUGGESTIONS THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE ON REALISTIC MEANS OF
RESOLVING THIS ISSUE AND MEETING THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED STATES IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO A
POLICY OF DEVELOPMENT AND INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL SOUTH ASIAN
STATES. INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBORS SHOULD BE FREE TO FOCUS
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ON DEVELOPMENTAL TASKS RATHER THAN ARMAMENTS. WE SUPPORT
NORMALIZED RELATIONS AMONG PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH, AND INDIA,
FREE FROM EXTERNAL INVOLVEMENT, AND HAVE BEEN GREATLY
IMPRESSED BY YOUR PROGRESS IN REDUCING TENSIONS. WE SEEK
NO SPECIAL ROLE FOR OURSELVES AND WANT TO DO NOTHING THAT
WILL UPSET THIS PROCESS.

I ASK YOUR INDULGENCE FOR HAVING WRITTEN AT LENGTH, BUT
I AM CONVINCED THAT MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN INDIA AND
THE UNITED STATES IS A VITAL ELEMENT OF WORLD PEACE. MY
INTEREST IN INDIA STEMS FROM MY MOTHER'S YEARS THERE. FROM
HER EXPERIENCE, AND MY OWN, I KNOW THAT INDIANS AND
AMERICANS SHARE MANY BASIC VALUES AND CARE DEEPLY ABOUT
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OURS WILL NOT AGREE ON ALL MATTERS; OUR SHARED INTERESTS
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IN WHICH WE CAN WORK OUT SPECIFIC DIFFERENCES. AMBASSADOR
GOHEEN IS PERHAPS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO REPRESENT THE
UNITED STATES IN THESE TERMS. I LOOK FORWARD TO STAYING
IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YOU THROUGH HIM AND DIRECTLY AS WE EACH
SHOULDER OUR NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER.
END TEXT.

THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL ANNOTATION WRITTEN BY PRESIDENT
CARTER: QTE: WITH BEST PERSONAL WISHES, J.C. END QTE.
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PAGE 01 STATE 100768
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APPROVED BY: S/S-O:BPÉRITO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100768

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM STATE MAY 04:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100768

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, IN

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THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL ANNOTATION WRITTEN BY PRESIDENT
CARTER: QTE: WITH BEST PERSONAL WISHES, J.C. END QTE.
VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMITY, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FOREIGN COMMITMENTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 0a4d8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2641929
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER DESAI
TAGS: PPDC, PREL, PFOR, US, IN, (CARTER, JIMMY), (DESAI, MORARJI)
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0a4d8c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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